

Cultural Values and Resilience: Embedded Barriers to Building Resilience in the US

James Bohland

Co-Director GFURR

October 12

GFURR Conference:

Normative Dimensions of Resilience

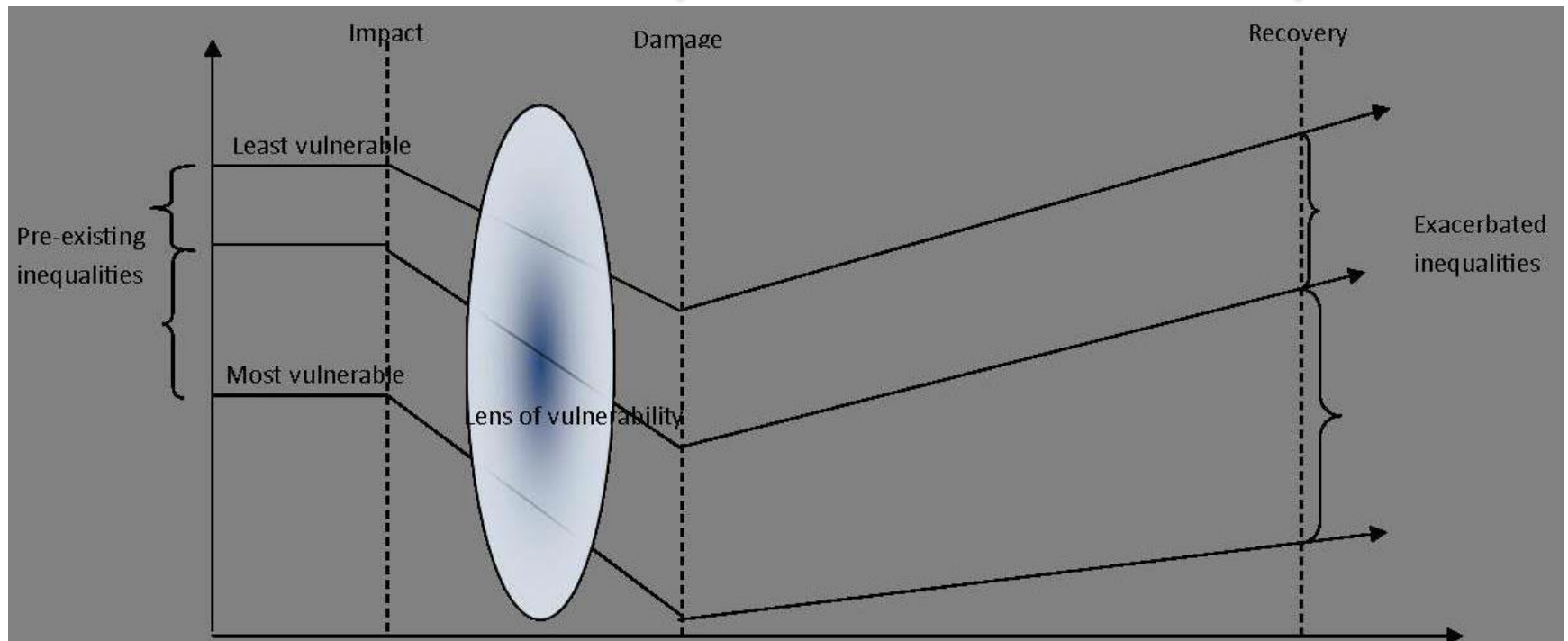
Proposition and Assertions of Presentation

- **Proposition: Elements of the U.S. Value System Create Barriers to Creating More Resilient Places**
- **Key Assertions:**
 - **Moving to a More Resilient Society Requires Transformational Processes**
 - **Adaptive Strategies Can Lead to Amplification of Social Disparities**
 - **Double-Looped Learning is a Requirement for Transformative Actions**
 - **National Values Influence the Ability of Society to Shift from Adaptive to Transformative Resilience**
 - **A National Value System for the U.S. can be Identified and Elements are Incompatible with the Transformative Actions Required for Resilience Building**
 - **Role of Elements of National Values Vary by Region and Sub-Populations**
 - **Regional Rather Than National Approaches to Resilience Should be the Focus of Public Policy**

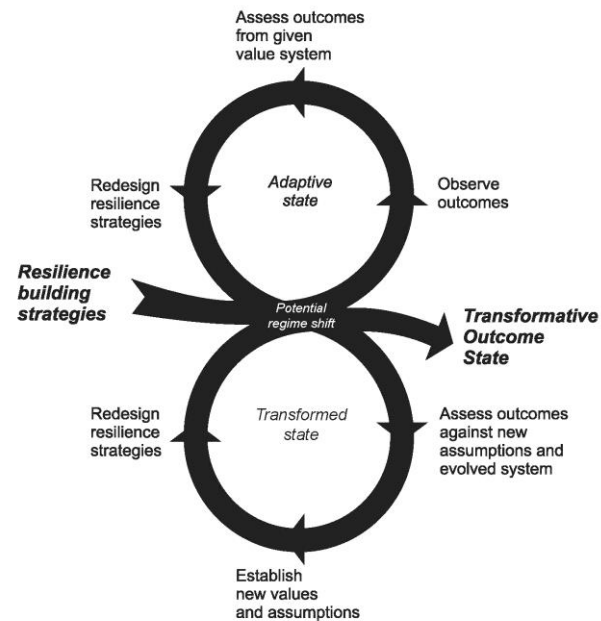
Social Amplification of Disaster Risk: Conceptual Model

First Amplification

Second Amplification

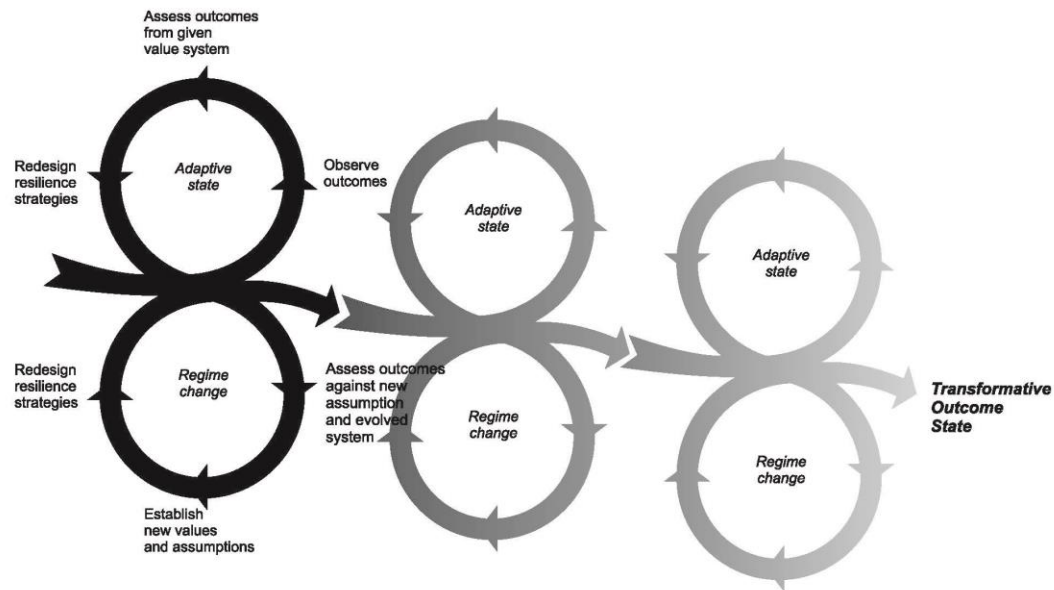


Adaptive and Transformative Resilience: Double Loop Learning and Value Modification



Single and Double Loop Learning

Transformative Resilience Cycles



Single and Double Loop Learning

Summary of American Values From Literature

| | |
|--|------------------------|
| <i>Change</i> | <i>Mobility</i> |
| <i>Personal Control over Environment</i> | |
| <i>Value of Time</i> | <i>Self Help</i> |
| <i>Egalitarianism</i> | <i>Independence</i> |
| <i>Individualism</i> | <i>Privacy</i> |
| <i>Competition</i> | <i>Free Enterprise</i> |
| <i>Optimism</i> | <i>Action Oriented</i> |
| <i>Work Oriented</i> | <i>Informality</i> |
| <i>Openness</i> | <i>Directness</i> |
| <i>Honesty</i> | <i>Practicality</i> |
| <i>Efficiency</i> | <i>Materialism</i> |
| <i>Inquisitiveness</i> | <i>Pragmatism</i> |
| <i>Volunteerism</i> | <i>Patriotism</i> |
| <i>Progress</i> | <i>Freedom</i> |

American Creed

(Seymour Lipset)



Resilience Barriers Nested in U.S. Value System

